

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TC/A.U. __3728__

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A package comprising:

a) a first sleeve including at least one side wall having a predetermined height and being closed at one end by a first wall;

b) a second sleeve including at least one side wall having a predetermined height and being closed at one end by a second wall, said second sleeve being sized so as to be capable of moving in a telescopic fashion on said first sleeve;

c) an array of compressible articles enclosed between said first and second sleeves with said first wall forming a bottom wall of a package and said second wall forming a top wall of said package, said articles having at least one planar surface aligned substantially parallel to at least one of said first and second walls and being held in compression in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to said planar surface; and

d) an attachment and release member securing said first sleeve to said second sleeve after said array of articles have been compressed, said attachment and release member capable of being removed whereby said second sleeve will telescopically move upward relative to said first sleeve as said articles expand so as to increase the volume of said package and allow said articles to be individually removed through an opening formed in said package.

2. (Original) The package of claim 1 wherein said first and second sleeves have a rectangular cross-sectional configuration.

3. (Original) The package of claim 1 wherein said first and second sleeves have a square cross-sectional configuration.

4. (Original) The package of claim 1 wherein said predetermined height of said side wall of said first sleeve is equal to said predetermined height of said side wall of said second sleeve.

5. (Original) The package of claim 1 wherein said predetermined height of said side wall of said first sleeve is greater than said predetermined height of said side wall of said second sleeve.

6. (Original) The package of claim 1 wherein said top wall has a perforation line formed therein that circumscribes a removable flap.

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7. (Original) The package of claim 1 wherein at least one of said first and second sleeves is constructed from a semi-rigid material.
8. (Original) The package of claim 7 wherein at least one of said first and second sleeves is constructed of cardboard.
9. (Original) The package of claim 1 wherein at least one of said first and second sleeves is constructed from a pliable material.
10. (Original) A package comprising:
 - a) a first sleeve including at least one side wall having a predetermined height and being closed at one end by a first wall;
 - b) a second sleeve including at least one side wall having a predetermined height and being closed at one end by a second wall, said second sleeve being sized so as to be capable of moving in a telescopic fashion on said first sleeve;
 - c) an opening formed in said second wall;
 - d) an array of compressible articles enclosed between said first and second sleeves with said first wall forming a bottom wall of a package and said second wall forming a top wall of said package, said articles having at least one planar surface aligned substantially parallel to at least one of said first and second walls and being held in compression in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to said planar surface; and
 - e) an attachment and release member securing said first sleeve to said second sleeve after said array of articles have been compressed, said attachment and release member capable of being removed whereby said second sleeve will telescopically move upward relative to said first sleeve as said articles expand so as to increase the volume of said package and allow said articles to be individually removed through said opening.
11. (Original) The package of claim 10 wherein said opening is sized to be slightly smaller than said planar surface of each article.
12. (Original) The package of claim 11 wherein said opening has an oval configuration.
13. (Original) The package of claim 10 wherein said array of compressible articles includes at least six absorbent articles.

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14. (Original) The package of claim 10 wherein said predetermined height of said side wall of said first sleeve is equal to said predetermined height of said side wall of said second sleeve.

15. (Original) The package of claim 10 wherein said predetermined height of said side wall of said first sleeve is greater than said predetermined height of said side wall of said second sleeve.

16. (Original) A package comprising:

a) a first sleeve including at least one side wall having a predetermined height and being closed at one end by a first wall;

b) a second sleeve including at least one side wall having a predetermined height and being closed at one end by a second wall, said second sleeve being sized so as to be capable of moving in a telescopic fashion on said first sleeve;

c) a perforation line formed in said second wall that circumscribes a flap that can be removed to form an opening in said second wall;

d) an array of compressible articles enclosed between said first and second sleeves with said first wall forming a bottom wall of a package and said second wall forming a top wall of said package, said articles having at least one planar surface aligned substantially parallel to at least one of said first and second walls and being held in compression in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to said planar surface; and

e) an attachment and release member securing said first sleeve to said second sleeve after said array of articles have been compressed, said attachment and release member capable of being removed whereby said second sleeve will telescopically move upward relative to said first sleeve as said articles expand so as to increase the volume of said package and allow said articles to be individually removed.

17. (Original) The package of claim 16 wherein a pull tab is attached to said attachment and release member.

18. (Original) The package of claim 16 wherein said array of compressible articles includes at least twelve absorbent articles.

19. (Original) The package of claim 16 wherein said side wall of said first sleeve has a height of less than about 10 inches.

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20. (Original) The package of claim 16 wherein the volume of said package can be increased by at least about 50% after said attachment and release member is removed.